California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board



## **Advisory**

To: Fleets, Fleet Operators and Other Interested Parties

Number 351

June, 2006 Revised October, 2008

## ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA'S FLEET PERIODIC SMOKE INSPECTION PROGRAM (PSIP)

Since October 1, 1999, owners of California-based fleets have had to comply with all of the following:

- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles that are 6,000 lbs. GVWR or greater in fleets of two or more (except those equipped with engines that are less than four years old and those vehicles used exclusively for personal use, such as motor homes), must be tested annually with a smoke opacity meter according to the SAE J1667 test specifications and procedures;
- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles must meet the applicable opacity standards of 55% for pre-1991 engines and 40% for 1991 and newer engines;
- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles determined to be in non-compliance must be promptly repaired and brought into compliance; and,
- Records of the initial opacity test, and if applicable, repair information, and post repair opacity tests for each vehicle must be maintained for at least two years, as well as records for the meter calibration.

The ARB has the authority to audit the inspection records of all heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles at owner/operator designated fleet locations and to test vehicles for compliance.

To keep your fleet in compliance and avoid having to undergo legal action and pay costly penalties, you must adhere to Section 2194, Title 13, California Code of Regulations, which states the following:

- (a) The owner of a vehicle subject to the requirements of this chapter shall record the following information when performing the smoke opacity testing:
  - 1. The brand name and model of the opacity meter.
  - 2. The dates of the last calibration of the opacity meter.
  - 3. The name of the smoke meter operator who conducted the test.
  - 4. The name and address of the contracted smoke test facility or vehicle repair facility that conducted the test (if applicable).
  - 5. The applicable smoke opacity standard for the tested vehicle.
  - 6. Vehicle identification number, vehicle engine year, engine make/model, and test date. Fleet designated vehicle identification numbers are also acceptable.
  - 7. The initial smoke test opacity levels for three successive test readings.
  - 8. An indication of whether the vehicle passed or failed the initial smoke test.
  - 9. The post-repair test date.

- 10. The post-repair smoke test opacity levels for three successive test readings.
- 11. An indication of whether the vehicle passed or failed the post-repair smoke test.
- 12. For vehicles that have failed the smoke test and have been repaired, the vehicle repair information specified in Section 2186(a), Title 13, California Code of Regulations.
- 13. SAE J1243 smoke opacity meters became obsolete on July 1, 1999. Any smoke test taken with an SAE J1243 smoke opacity meter on or after January 1, 1999 is invalid.

The above items are what we will be looking for when we conduct an audit of your facility.

To obtain more information about the PSIP, please visit our website at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/hdvip/hdvip.htm.

To obtain more information about Smoke Meter Manufacturers, please visit our website at: <a href="http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/smokemtr.htm">http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/smokemtr.htm</a>. All smoke meter manufacturers are in the process of updating their owner's manuals with updated calibration specifications and frequencies, and we will be posting them to this website as they are received.

Penalties: Applicable civil penalties under the Health and Safety Code and California Code of Regulations will be assessed for violations.

If you have any questions regarding program regulations, please contact Mr. Ramon Cabrera at (626) 322-7061. If you have any questions regarding enforcement, please contact Ms. Michele Burns at (626) 350-6490. If you have additional questions, please contact ARB's Public Information Office at 1-800-END-SMOG.

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